(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure the interests of women labourers working in this industry?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The main labour laws applicable to workers (including workers in the Fish Processing Industry) are the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 etc. For women workers provisions of Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 are also applicable.

According to 1991 Census, 51,211 workers (including marginal workers) are engaged in the processing, canning and preserving of fish, Crustacea and similar foods.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides for fixation of minimum wages for different categories of workers, and their periodical revision by the respective State Governments. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for equal remenera-tion for men and women workers. The Acts do not make any distinction on the basis of sex. The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and the Rules framed thereunder provide for various welfare and health measures for such workers. Cases of violation of the provisions of the Acts and Rules are dealt with suitably by the appropriate Government.

Additionally, the Marine Products Export Development Authority also assist the seafood processors to upgrade their facilities to achieve equivalency with the European and US standards, by which the workers get better facilities in the processing plants. Extension Trainings arc being given to pre-processing and processing workers for hygenic handling of fishery products.

Financial assitance to women in Punjab

3023. SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA:
SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are providing financial assistance to women in various States; and

(b) if so, the total financial assistance provided to the State of Punjab during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Articles purchased by trifed

3024. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what arc the articles purchased by TRIFED during 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 (State-wise, quantity/rate of purchase and rate of sale);

(b) the source of items purchased from (i) Mandi (ii) Opeen Markets (iii) Government Departments (iv) PSUs under Central Government (v) PSUs under State Government and (vi) Individual Tribals;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints of violation of norms for purchasing the articles from tribals; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Year-wise details of commodities purchased and sold for 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 arc

enclosed as Annexure A, B and C. The details of State-wise/Branch wise purchases arc appended as Annexure D, E and F. Details regarding purchases are compiled by Trifed's branch offices. *[See Appendix 186, Annexure No. 49].*

(b) Trifed has not purchased items from sources stated at (ii) , (iii), (iv) during aforesaid period. During this period, items were soureed mainly from Mandis, Individual Tribals, State Level Tribal Development Corporations, Forest Corporations, Cooperatives and LAMPS.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

Special component plan for SCs in Orissa

3025. SHRl SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount released to the State Governments under the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes for the last three years;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa has received the aforesaid amount and the details of disbursement to the districts; and

(c) what is the total assets created under the aforesaid plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Statement I showing the details of funds released under Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan to the State/ UTs is enclosed at *(See below).*

(b) Amount released to Government of Orissa during last three years is given in reply of part 'a' above. The amount indicated against Orissa has been received by the Government of Orissa. The Central Government disburse the funds under Special Central Assistance state-wise and not district-wise.

(c) Information is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

(Rs. in lakhs)

	States/UTs	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2915.22	2680.13	3388.78
2.	Assam	163.52	142.18	596.66
3.	Bihar	2678.61	2808.02	3620.07
4.	Gujarat	278.90	1659.99	371.40
5.	Goa	2.09	3.83	2.72
6.	Haryana	520.00	546.41	741.77
7.	H.P.	180.29	256.91	259.56
8.	J & K	95.23	73.87	132.80
9.	Karnataka	1884.01	1389.35	1820.07
10.	Kerala	404.93	645,94	724.54
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1910.39	1945.24	2237.08
12.	Maharashtra	1448.87	1922.45	1673.92
13.	Manipur	5.11	6.58	10.62
14.	Orissa	1265.07	1925.47	2281.57
15.	Punjab	883.28	0.00.	1119.74
16.	Rajasthan	1619.91	2279.81	2575.48
17.	Sikkim	3.39	4.44	4.03
18.	Tamil Nadu	2271.54	1756.09	3236.93